

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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BENNETT DELIVERS FUNDS TO 95 RURAL UTAH SCHOOLS

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Senator Bob Bennett is happy to announce that 95 rural schools in Utah will split approximately \$700,000 in federal funds, now on their way to the state as a result of language Bennett authored in a recent spending bill.

The Necessarily Existent Small Schools (NESS) Program was established by the Utah State Legislature to assist small, isolated schools in the state. The money announced today and secured by Bennett is the first federal money approved to supplement the state program.

"I'm delighted to announce this boost for rural schools in our state," Bennett said. "When a school like Grouse Creek Elementary in northern Utah is using text books from the 1940s, and holds a bake sale to help raise its \$1000 annual operating budget, the \$5,000 it is slated to receive from this funding makes a tremendous difference for its kids."

Bennett noted the grant money is expected to be used to upgrade inadequate libraries, a common challenge in Utah's schools, particularly in the rural areas.

"Monument Valley High School in San Juan County has made a strong push to increase literacy this year," Bennett continued. "With no community library in the area, the high school library is all the more important and everyone in the area, not just students at the school, will benefit from the upgrades this new money will help provide."

"These are two examples of the many challenges at all the rural schools in our state. The NESS program is a valuable resource for them and I'm hopeful we can continue to add to it from Washington," he added.

Utah schools are designated NESSs if they

- have a small number of students
Schools whose student population does not exceed following amount:
 - Elementary school – 160 students*
 - Junior high or middle school – 400 students*
 - One or two-year secondary school – 200 students*
 - Three-year secondary school – 450 students*
 - Four-year secondary school – 500 students*
 - Six-year secondary school – 600 students*
- are geographically isolated
Schools whose students travel the following distances:

*K-6 travel more than 1 ½hour round trip by bus
7-12 travel more than 2 ½hours round trip by bus*

Ninety-five schools in Utah qualify as NESSs and come from 25 of Utah's 40 school districts. The one-time federal grant of \$699,154 will be allocated by formula and administered by the Utah State Office of Education.

Bennett noted that while the primary responsibility for education funding and administration rests at the state and local level, he is supportive of some federal programs that preserve local authority.

The following schools, listed by school district, will receive a portion of the grant:

BEAVER	IRON	SEVIER
Minersville Elem (K-6)	Escalante Valley Elem (K-6)	Koosharem Elem (K-6)
Beaver HS (7-12)	Parowan HS (7-12)	No Sevier Middle (6-8)
Milford HS (7-12)		So Sevier Middle (6-8)
BOX ELDER	JUAB	No Sevier HS (9-12)
Grouse Creek Elem (K-6)	Juab Middle (5-8)	So Sevier HS (9-12)
Grouse Creek Sec (7-10)	KANE	SOUTH SANPETE
Howell Elem (K-3)	Big Water Elem (K-6)	Ephraim Middle (6-8)
Park Valley Elem (K-6)	Big Water HS (7-12)	Gunnison Valley MS (6-8)
Park Valley Sec (7-10)	Kanab Middle (7-8)	
Snowville Elem (K-6)	Kanab HS (9-12)	Gunnison Valley High (9-12)
Snowville Sec. (7)	Lake Powell Elem (K-6)	TINTIC
CARBON	Lake Powell HS (7-12)	Callao Elem (K-6)
Helper Jr. HS (7-9)	Valley HS (7-12)	Callao Sec (7-8)
East Carbon HS (7-12)	MILLARD	Eureka Elem (K-6)
DAGGETT	Garrison Elem (K-6)	West Desert Elem (K-6)
Flaming Gorge Elem (K-5)	Garrison J/M (7-8)	West Desert HS (7-12)
Manila Elem (K-6)	Fillmore Middle (5-8)	Tintic HS (7-12)
Manila HS (7-12)	Millard HS (9-12)	TOOELE
DUCHESNE	NORTH SANPETE	Dugway Elem (K-6)
Tabiona Elem (K-6)	Fountain Green Elem (K-6)	Ibapah Elem (K-6)
Tabiona HS (7-12)	Spring City Elem (K-6)	Vernon Elem (K-6)
Altamont HS (7-12)	NORTH SUMMIT	Dugway HS (7-12)
Duchesne HS (7-12)	North Summit Middle (5-8)	Wendover HS (7-12)
EMERY	North Summit HS (9-12)	UINTAH
Book Cliff Elem (K-6)	PIUTE	West Middle (6-9)
Cleveland Elem (K-6)	Circleville Elem (K-6)	WASHINGTON
Canyon View Jr HS (7-9)	Oscarson Elem (K-6)	Springdale Elem (K-6)
San Rafael Jr HS (7-9)	Piute HS (7-12)	Phelps Middle (7-8)
Green River HS (7-12)	RICH	Enterprise HS (7-12)
GARFIELD	North Rich Elem (K-5)	WAYNE
Antimony Elem (K-6)	South Rich Elem (K-5)	Hanksville Elem (K-6)
Boulder Elem (K-6)	Rich Middle (6-8)	Wayne Middle (6-8)
Bryce Valley Elem (K-6)	Rich HS (9-12)	Wayne HS (9-12)
Bryce Valley HS (7-12)	SAN JUAN	WEBER
Escalante Elem (K-6)	Bluff Elem (K-6)	Snowcrest Jr High (7-9)
Escalante HS (7-12)	Halls Crossing Elem (K-6)	
Panguitch Middle (7-8)	La Sal Elem (K-4)	
Panguitch HS (9-12)	Albert R. Lyman MS (6-8)	
GRAND	Monticello HS (7-12)	
Grand Co. Middle (7-8)	Monument Valley HS (7-12)	
Grand Co. HS (9-12)	Navajo Mountain HS (9-12)	
	Whitehorse HS (7-12)	
	San Juan HS (9-12)	

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